16. (Amended) A method of encrypting media content received at a user's home from a programming source, the method comprising:

checking, at the user's home, whether a smart card is authorized to encrypt the media content; and

encrypting, at the user's home, the media content only if the smart card is authorized to encrypt the media content.

21. (Amended) A method of decrypting media content, the method comprising:

checking whether a smart card is authorized to decrypt the media content;

determining that the smart card is authorized to decrypt the media content only if data other than electronic money is stored on the smart card, wherein the data is expected to be of value to a user; and

decrypting the media content only if the smart card is authorized to decrypt the media content.

34. (Amended) A method of allowing parental control over media content, the method comprising:

comparing a rating corresponding to the media content to a rating associated with a smart card; and

allowing access to the media content if the rating corresponding to the media content does not exceed the rating associated with the smart card, wherein a plurality of ratings do not exceed the rating associated with the smart card.

50. (Amended) A method of identifying boundaries of a network of devices, the method comprising:

encrypting media content based on an identifier corresponding to a plurality of smart cards; and

limiting rendering of the media content to a network of devices to which the plurality of smart cards are coupled, wherein the network of devices is maintained within a single house.

Please add the following new claims:

52. (New) A method as recited in claim 50, wherein the network devices include devices to receive media content and devices to render media content.

53. (New) A method as recited in claim 50, wherein one of the plurality of smart cards is coupled to a device when the smart card is inserted into a smart card reader coupled to the device.

54. (New) A method as recited in claim 50, wherein the plurality of smart cards can be moved to different devices to alter the boundaries of the network.